

Blackwater Presbyterian Church  
State Road 54  
Clarksville vicinity  
Sussex County  
Delaware

HABS No. DE-200

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DEL,  
3-CLAVILY,  
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

STATE Delaware	COUNTY Sussex	TOWN OR VICINITY Clarksville Vicinity
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Blackwater Presbyterian Church		HABS NO. DE-200
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) South side State Road 54, at its intersection with State Route 846		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1767; rebuilt 1893	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Oldest Presbyterian church building in southern Delaware. Founded by Charles Tennent.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Clapboard siding over, presumably, heavy timber		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Approximately 30'x35'		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Clapboards on west side are beaded; hood over doorway supported by brackets		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Simple pews; heated by two stoves; oil lamps; stenciled frieze; plaque in north wall reads "Blackwater Church Built 1767. First Pastor Charles Tennent. Rebuilt 1893."		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The extent of rebuilding in 1893 is not known; scratched in plaster on interior was found "1860;" patches in clapboarding above and below west windows indicate window size changed; new roof 1970s; brick wall around churchyard, 1970s.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register Nomination, listed 1976.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Alison K. Hoagland, Historic American Buildings Survey		DATE January 1983

ADDENDUM TO:  
BLACKWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
State Road 54  
Clarksville Vicinity  
Sussex County  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C., 20013